

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 05095 161218Z

46

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 EUR-12 EA-06 /101 W

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R 161132Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8139

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 5095

FOLLOWING TEL SENT NEW DELHI ACTION AND INFO TO
CALCUTTA MADRAS ON APRIL 16. NOW REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO.

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOMBAY 0932

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG IN

SUBJ: INDIAN OFFSHORE DRILLING

1. DURING MEETING DEVOTED LARGELY TO OTHER MATTERS, OFFSHORE
INTERNATIONAL BOMBAY REP L.T. GARRETT INFORMED US OFFSHORE HAD
FALLEN OUT OF RUNNING IN EFFORT TO SELL OR LEASE ADDITIONAL RIGS
TO ONGC BECAUSE OF PRICE IN ONE CASE AND AVAILABILITY OF A RIG
IN THE OTHER. WITH REGARD
TO THE FIRST, ONGC WAS INTERESTED IN LEASING AN OFFSHORE RIG FOR 18
MONTHS AND THEN BUYING IT OUTRIGHT, BUT THE PRICE DIFFERENTIAL
BETWEEN THE OFFSHORE RIG AND THE NORWEGIAN RIG ULTIMATELY PURCHASED
BECAME SO GREAT THAT OFFSHORE DROPPED OUT. (NORWEGIANS APPARENTLY
CONTINUED TO CUT PRICE TO MAKE MATTERS MORE DIFFICULT FOR OFFSHORE.)
IN SECOND CASE, ONGC WAS INTERESTED IN A SMALLER OFFSHORE RIG,
WHICH WAS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME AND ONGC IS BUYING A BRITISH
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PAGE 02 NEW DE 05095 161218Z

RIG OUT OF AUSTRALIA. (THESE APPARENTLY ARE THE NORWEGIAN AND

BRITISH RIGS REFERRED TO BY MALAVIYA IN HIS SPEECH ABOARD THE
SAGAR SAMRAT APRIL 10.)

2. ASKED ABOUT THE QUALITY OF THE EQUIPMENT, GARRETT REPEATED
EARLIER STATEMENTS THAT THE RIGS ARE MOST MODERN DESIGN AND QUITE
APPROPRIATE, BUT THAT HE HAS SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE QUALITY
OF THE PERSONNEL. HE SAID HE HAS NO DOUBT THAT INDIANS PREFER
AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY IN OFFSHORE DRILLING, BUT PRICE DIFFERENTIAL
IN FIRST CASE MENTIONED PARA 1 BECAME SO GREAT THAT HE HIMSELF
WOULD HAVE HAD TO RECOMMEND BUYING THE NORWEGIAN RIG.
BANE
UNQUOTE SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: OFFSHORE OIL FIELDS, EXPLORATORY DRILLING
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

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